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FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1378  
INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 7301  
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY 7679  
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA PRIORITY 3030  
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 5718  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 6779  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 3497  
RUEHCI/AMCONSUL KOLKATA PRIORITY 4963  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 2539  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 3825  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY  
RHMFIUU/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS KATHMANDU 000094

SIPDIS  
SENSITIVE

DEPT FOR NEA/FO E. CATALANO AND ISN/RA R. NEPHEW

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PARMP](#) [PREL](#) [IR](#) [SP](#)

SUBJECT: NEPAL BACKS U.S. POSITION ON IRAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM

REF: STATE 09124

11. (SBU) During a February 1 meeting with Acting Foreign Secretary Durga Bhattarai, Charge highlighted U.S. efforts to engage Iran on its nuclear program and Iran's continued unresponsiveness. He urged Nepal to support efforts to increase pressure on Iran (reftel). Charge noted that all countries have a stake in the nuclear non-proliferation regime. Bhattarai thanked Charge and said that Nepal remained fully committed to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. As a small country in the midst of three nuclear states, Nepal is particularly sensitive to risks of nuclear conflict.

12. (SBU) Asked by Charge about Nepal's relationship with Iran, Bhattarai said the two countries rarely interact in international fora. While Nepal and Iran share South Asian "civilizational" links, there was very little real contact between the two countries. Bhattarai added that, unlike other Middle Eastern countries, very few Nepalis work in Iran.  
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